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13 January 1982

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

No. 2551

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EIGHTH ACCT CONFERENCE COMPLETES WORK

Election of New Secretary General

Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Dec 81 p 3

[Article by Philippe Decraene]

[Text] The eighth conference of the Cultural and Technical Cooperation Agency (ACCT), which started out in a difficult climate, completed its work with unanimity, as did all the conferences that had preceded it since the establishment of the Agency in Niamey in March 1970. Thirty-eight delegations from the 5 continents representing a linguistic community of over 100 million persons* elected Francois Owono-Nguema to the position of secretary general of the Agency on Wednesday, 9 December, but not without difficulty.

As the ACCT charter requires a majority of 90 percent of the votes for the election of the secretary general, it was the application of this procedure which constituted the principal work of the delegations. Dan Dicko, Nigerien, secretary general, had maintained his candidacy until Tuesday afternoon, in spite of legal questions raised during the last few months concerning his eligibility. Criticized for his position, which was labeled "electioneering" by his opponents, Dan Dicko was forced to withdraw from the competition at the express orders of his government. His supporters attempted unsuccessfully to show that during the 8 years he headed the Agency the number of member countries increased from 21 to 38 and that the only important states still outside the "French-speaking club" were Algeria and Madagascar.

After the withdrawal of several less-favored candidates, including those of Benin, Tunisia and Zaire, the candidate of Gabon, the host country, was elected. His victory was linked to his own personality, to the action taken by President Bongo--who threw the entire weight of his authority into the balance--and also to the role of the French delegation, which had received instructions from the Elysee to vigorously support the Gabonese candidate.

*Thirty member countries participated in the conference (Belgium, Benin, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Dominica, France, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Upper Volta, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mali, Mauritius, Monaco, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Chad, Togo, Tunisia, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Zaire), six associated states (Cameroon, Guinea-Bissau, Laos, Morocco, Mauritania, St Lucia) and two "participating countries" (Quebec, Canada and New Brunswick, Canada).

Four new countries have joined the ACCT: Guinea and the Congo, as member states, and St Lucia and Morocco, as associated states.

The percentage of the budget earmarked for the Agency's cultural programs was doubled, increasing from 5 to 10 percent, compared to the total general budget. The latter--and this is a salient point--has increased from 1.5 million francs at the time the ACCT was established to about 100 million francs for 1982.

In a closing speech which drew much applause, Jean-Pierre Cot, [French] delegate and minister of cooperation and development, made the following noteworthy comment: "The North will not survive the weakening of the South. In order for the North to come out of the current crisis, the South must develop."

Lebanon proposed that the ninth conference be held in Beirut in December 1983.

Biography

Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Dec 81 p 3

[Text] The successor of Dan Dicko in the secretariat general of the ACCT has essentially the same profile of scientific researcher and teacher.

Born in 1939, in Oyen in the northern part of Gabon, Owono-Nguema completed his secondary studies in Brazzaville, then received a diploma in physical sciences and mathematics in Strasbourg and a diploma for graduate studies in theoretical physics from the University of Lille. He is a doctor of sciences and wrote his thesis in 1968 at the University of Strasbourg. He is known for his research in physics and mathematics and in nuclear physics.

Vice rector of the University of Omar-Bongo (1970-71), then rector of the same university (1971-75), he taught there as a professor of physics and also at the Universities of Lille and Strasbourg.

In 1972 he was appointed high commissioner of scientific research and was secretary of state for culture and arts (1973-75), then minister of scientific research (1975-80). Since February 1980, he has been minister of state responsible for culture, the arts and popular education. He has headed many Gabonese delegations at international meetings and was presented in Libreville as an honest and unassuming university professor.

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CSO: 4719/353

ARMED TROOPS USED TO PROTECT BASKETBALL TEAMS

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 1

[Article by Alan Bruce-Brand]

[Text]

MOGADISHU.

ARMED troops surrounded Africa's basketball giants in dramatic scenes here on Tuesday.

The drastic move came in the wake of events which have left an indelible black mark on African basketball.

Following the withdrawal from the African men's championships on Sunday of the Congo team, after angry spectators stormed the court and stopped their match against Algeria — the first of several games to decide the two teams to play in the semi-finals — the referees declared the match forfeited.

The technical commission awarded the points to Algeria, putting them and Somalia in the semi-finals.

But Congo appealed against the decision, which was upheld by an emergency meeting of the jury of appeal, and the game was replayed.

On Monday night, the rematch turned into another farce with both teams again going for the high scores and not straining themselves in the defence. The crowd suspected a conspiracy to get into the semi-finals.

The technical commission decided the game had been played in an "unsportsman-like manner" and annulled the result.

The quarrel between teams and officials eventually led to armed troops, supplied for security reasons, confining the players to their rooms.

The crisis was nearly resolved by frantic telex messages to the International Basketball Federation in France.

But then Congo withdrew and Algeria walked off the court before the start of their semi-final against Ivory Coast because the crowd were throwing objects and abuse at them.

CSO: 4700/481

BURUNDI

BRIEFS

ITALIAN MISSIONARIES EXPELLED--Bujumbura, November--A group of 11 Italian missionaries expelled from Burundi last week had "disturbed public order" during a constitutional referendum, Interior Minister Lieutenant-Colonel Stanislas Mandi said here. The Minister said the root of the issue lay with a sermon given by another missionary, Father Jean Abeni, who was expelled before the latest group. According to Lt.-Col. Mandi, Father Jean used the sermon to accuse parishioners at Gatore, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in Southern Burundi, of looking for worldly wealth and dedicating themselves to the ruling Union for National Progress (UPRONA) and to President Jean-Batiste Bagaza. A few days after his expulsion, two other missionaries asked for prayers for Father Jean and for the parishioners who denounced him, the Minister said. He accused one of the missionaries of saying that Government officials exploited the people's wealth. Lt.-Col. Mandi said that the actions of the missionaries, members of the Order of St. Francois-Xavier, demonstrated their intention of sabotaging the plans of the President and Government to improve democracy in the country. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English No 2849, 27 Nov 81 p 21]

CSO: 4700/474

CAMEROON

BRIEFS

COFFEE SELLING PRICE--Coffee prices have been released for 1981-1982 coffee season. By a presidential decree signed yesterday, high grade Robusta coffee will henceforth be sold at 330 CFA francs per kilogram as against 320 CFA francs the previous season. The price of Arabica will rise from 340 to 350 CFA francs during the same season. The communique from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning says prices have been increased as a result of coffee surplus in the market and the sharp drop in coffee prices over the last 5 years. It states that the step has been taken to help farmers satisfy their basic needs in conformity with government policy of social justice. Meanwhile, the Arabica coffee and Robusta coffee season will open on 4 January 1982. [Text] [AB291953 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 29 Dec 81]

CSO: 4700/484

PRAGMATISM SEEN AS KEY TO MENGISTU'S ACTIONS

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 25, 9 Dec 81 pp 4-6

[Text]

In mid-November, Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, presided over the third regular plenary session of the Commission to organise a workers' party in Ethiopia (COPWE). Since the previous session in February, not much progress has been made in implementing its resolutions calling for strengthened ideology and organisation in COPWE. In November, new resolutions stressed anti-corruption and anti-wastefulness and considerable emphasis was placed in speeches on the impossibility of building socialism without dealing with these issues. However, critics of COPWE who hoped that the session would clarify the anti-corruption campaign were disappointed.

The campaign was launched in September by Mengistu with the formation of special courts, workers' committees in all government organisations and a national investigation committee headed by the derg's own head of security, Col. Teka Tulu. A major week-long seminar was held in October to discuss how to combat excessive corruption at all levels. Embezzlement is said to have cost government organisations 8m *birr* this year alone. Speculation has centred on Mengistu's wish to use the opportunity to deal with senior political figures and extensive petty corruption at lower levels. In the event, a few more cases of small-scale theft have appeared in the courts, but there is no evident sign of any crackdown on the abuses of public office.

Cynics expected little else when it became clear that the closing speech at the seminar in October was to be by the derg's assistant secretary-general, Lt. Col. Fisseha Desta. Fikre Selassie and Legesse remain the potential opponents and rivals to Mengistu. Last year Legesse was side-tracked out of the position of controlling the army's political department to take over COPWE's organisational department.

Legesse does still represent a more pro-Soviet line within COPWE, although he and Mengistu have come closer together in recent months. Legesse, however, is vulnerable on several levels. He has been accused of abusing his position and power for personal ends; equally, COPWE's organisational structure has been growing very slowly, despite the heavy pressure from the USSR and the GDR to get a party off the ground as soon as possible. It is, we believe, no coincidence that only three days after COPWE's latest plenary session, the secretary of the Social Unity Party of the GDR, Horst Dohlus, arrived on a working visit to look at COPWE's organisational progress. We hear that his talks with Legesse, his two deputies, Dr Alemu Abebe and Shoandagne Belete, and with the head of propaganda, Maj. Girma Neway, were outspoken. Secretary Dohlus was very critical of the slow progress and he stressed the importance of having a party as soon as possible.

A tighter organisational structure is certainly needed in the face of efforts by opposition groups to unite. While these do not yet amount to much they are growing, particularly among various exile factions in Khartoum and elsewhere. The left-wing Meison group has been trying to make a common front with others (see *Africa Confidential* Vol 22 No 16); now two other opponents of the derg have announced a merger, the *Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Party* (EPRP) and the *Ethiopian Democratic Union* (EDU). Their new front was created on November 21 and is called the *Democratic Front for the Liberation of Ethiopia* (DFLE). It has a ten-man leadership with a rotating chairmanship. No names have been made public, but we understand that among the leaders are Col. Imeru Wonde, a former administrator of Gondar region for the derg in 1976

and 1977, before he fled to join the EDU in September 1977; and Lt. Col. **Alemayheu Asfaw**, a deputy commander of the airborne brigade who defected to the EPRP in 1976 claiming that Mengistu was trying to poison him.

Feudal opposition

The DFLE's programme includes the overthrow of Mengistu and the derge, and a call for a united front with the various nationality groups operating in the country. The merger of these two groups is a particularly surprising one as the EDU has long been seen as the feudal opposition to the derge; and the EPRP claimed to be the true "vanguard of the revolution". Both movements have however undergone changes in recent months. The EPRP virtually collapsed when it pushed out its dissidents last year; while the EDU held a congress in June to oust such figures as **Ras Mengesha Seyoum**, the former governor of Tigrai region under Haile Selassie, whose granddaughter he married. We believe the new organisation will soon find room for *Meison* elements as well. It is unlikely to get much response from national movements such as the *Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front* (EPLF), or the *Tigrai Peoples Liberation Front* (TPLF). Relations between the TPLF and the EPRP deteriorated into civil war in 1978 which the TPLF won; it also had to fight off the EDU at the same time. Even recent EPRP publications have strongly criticised the TPLF for sending fighters into Eritrea to help the EPLF in its civil war with the ELF in the middle of the year, while at the same time praising the ELF for its help in rectifying the EPRP's internal problems.

The TPLF will however, even if inadvertently, help the DFLE to establish itself by its own military actions in Tigrai and in northern Gondar where the new front claims to have its main strength. The TPLF's activity has been causing considerable concern in recent months in Addis Ababa; its hit and run raids along the length of both main roads to the north which run through Tigrai region, linking Eritrea to the south, are keeping the best parts of four Ethiopian divisions on the alert — the 7th, 16th, 18th and the newly raised 21st division which arrived in Tigrai a few weeks ago. The TPLF has also been extending its actions into the neighbouring regions to the south, Gondar and Wollo, parts of which it claims are really Tigrinya speaking and therefore fall within a Tigrai liberation front's legitimate activity. At the end of September, the administrator of Yeju province in Wollo region, Lt. **Kebede Kibret**, a derge member, was killed in a TPLF ambush while he was leading a special anti-TPLF task force in the northern part of Wollo.

By comparison with Tigrai, military activity in Eritrea has been minimal as the EPLF have continued their efforts to wipe out the ELF, which is proving a harder task than the EPLF will admit. We understand the ELF lost 3,000 fighters, disarmed by the Sudanese in August, but still have at least four brigades under arms, even if their effectiveness has been reduced by a stormy meeting of the ELF Revolutionary Council in Kassala in October. A number of top-level changes have been made and several leading personalities have lost their positions, though it is unclear if they have been completely ousted, among them **Abdullah Suleiman** of the foreign affairs bureau, and **Abdullah Idriss**, the head of the military office. Abdullah Idriss is still, we hear, in the mountains along the border north of Tessenai with a considerable number of fighters.

The Ethiopian forces tried to take advantage of these Eritrean divisions a few weeks ago at the beginning of November when an attack was launched into the area around Karkabet, a strategic centre in the Barka area which has good water. Karkabet was formerly a major ELF base, taken over by the EPLF in September. It lies on an old **Italian** road running north from the main highway between Tessenai and Agordat, and at Karkabet this track divides, one branch heading over the Sudan border, the other going further north into the main EPLF base areas at Fah in the Sahel region. Two brigades of the Ethiopian 8th division made an advance on Karkabet and nearly caught the EPLF by surprise. The advance was only halted a few kilometres from the village before being driven back after the EPLF deployed almost the whole of its own 'mechanised' units; it now has a total of some 50 vehicles, tanks and APC's which it can deploy at need, though it has difficulty obtaining fuel and ammunition. The EPLF also found it necessary to deploy some 40,000 of its own men in this fight. Holding on to Karkabet was however given a very high priority as it controls one of the Eritreans' roads across the border.

The EPLF, like the ELF, has been suffering in recent weeks from the Sudanese closure of the border, and of their offices in Khartoum and other towns. In late November, the EPLF's Khartoum office was again re-opened, but we understand they have been ordered to be much more circumspect than before; and the Sudanese are keeping a much closer eye on cross border traffic. All this has helped to give the EPLF some serious supply problems — one reason for the release of 3,000 Ethiopian prisoners in mid-November.

The concentration of the EPLF and the ELF on their own internal problems has increased the Ethiopian administration's optimism that it is winning the war in Eritrea. There has been little guerrilla activity,

apart from isolated land mines, for months. The curfew in Asmara has been relaxed from 7 to 11 pm; a new radio station to broadcast in Tigrinya has been started; a major reconstruction has been launched along the Asmara to Massawa road which runs down a 10,000 ft escarpment and is vulnerable to sabotage. Another sign of confidence was the release in October of some 2,000 ex-guerrillas — in the previous 14 months a total of 5,000 guerrillas have surrendered, most, though not all, from the ELF.

Massacre claims

Elsewhere the Ethiopian administration has been able to profit from the divisions of the national movements. In November, the **Somali** government allowed the **Sidama Liberation Movement** (SLM) to surface, to make claims of a massacre in northern Sidamo region at the village of Alo. The SLM is led by **Wolde Emmanuel Dubale**, a former MP under Haile Selassie and an ex-administrator of Yirgalem under the derg. It has, we understand, about 1,000 men under arms inside Sidamo, sent there after training in Somalia in July. This was the first time the SLM has gone public. It has however been one of the elements of the **Somali Abo Liberation Front** (SALF) which President **Siad Barre** organised and backed as part of his invasion strategy in 1977. SALF had three components, Sidama people, Oromos and Somalis. When the Somali government accepted the reality of the **Oromo Liberation Front** (OLF) early this year and allowed it to have offices in Mogadishu, the days of SALF as an independent organisation were numbered. The SLM has been set up, the Somali elements have gone to the **Western Somali Liberation Front** (WSLF) and the OLF is trying to absorb the Oromos. This has been taking all its attention for months and the OLF has not been seriously active militarily in the south for some time.

The OLF has also been running into problems with its political work in another area of the country, in the west in Wollega region. Wollega has been, and still is, the scene of a government crack-down on Protestants, particularly those of the **Mekane Yesus** church which has been a target of government action. The church's headquarters in Addis Ababa were taken over in November; and largely in Wollega or in Sidamo, where the majority of the 600,000-strong membership live, some 180 small churches have been

closed down in the last couple of years. But this is not, we believe, a religious persecution. The **Mekane Yesus** church is thought to be involved in the Oromo Liberation front — at least indirectly. It was this belief which led to the arrest and subsequent disappearance of Pastor **Gudina Tumsa** a couple of years ago — his brother is one of the OLF leaders. The government argues that the church (90% of whose members are Oromos) encourages separatism and Oromo nationalism. In addition, the government also blames the Protestant churches for the fact that so few peasant producer co-operatives are being set up in Wollega. The total, 7, compares badly with other regions. There have also been accusations that the **Mekane Yesus** church has not spoken out in favour of the call for 30,000 'volunteers' to help state farm harvests in Wollega this year.

The closure of **Mekane Yesus**'s headquarters has already been the subject of a protest from the **Swedish** and **Norwegian** governments — each country has a hundred or so missionaries working with **Mekane Yesus**. We hear there have been explicit threats that Swedish and Norwegian aid (currently running at about \$30m) may be affected. This might change the government's attitude to their take-over of the churches' office. With foreign exchange holdings virtually exhausted (down to 100m *birr* at the beginning of the year), with 45% inflation (though the official figure is 10%) last year and as much this year, with oil rises, and coffee still not earning what it has done in the past, the government is desperate for funds.

It is this, we believe, that will keep Ethiopia in touch with Western aid and contacts, despite all the considerable rhetoric over the Brightstar 82 US military manouevres in **Egypt**, **Somalia**, **Sudan** and **Oman**. It is no coincidence that of several former officials of Haile Selassie's regime released in September, it was the ex-tourism officials who have been put straight back to work, including **Habte Selassie Tafessa**, a former minister of tourism and now acting as the number two in the tourist commission. Whether or not Ethiopia is going to re-examine its current policy towards the US as the foreign minister threatened recently, British travel firms are being openly encouraged to organise trips to Ethiopia once again. Pragmatism still remains the key to Mengistu's actions ●

AYC PRESIDENT WARNS ABOUT 'CAPITALIST TAKE-OVER'

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 7 Dec 81 p 8

[Text] The Ghanaian society is getting more and more rotten because no one is able to survive without breaking the law.

Those who are not corrupt depend on the corrupt ones for their survival, Dr F. W. A. Akuffo, National President of the African Youth Command (AYC), said last Saturday.

Dr Akuffo was delivering the presidential address at the national quarterly consultative conference of the command in Accra.

He said corruption had come about as a result of the misconception that offering cash as an incentive could raise production.

"The cash incentive for promotion through private initiative to increase productivity shall never solve our economic problems."

The recent increase in the producer price of cocoa, Dr Akuffo said, was an example of using money as an incentive to induce farmers to increase production.

The National President said the command wanted the compulsory military training enshrined in the constitution to become a reality because through it, a para-military force could be organized for agricultural, road building and rural housing programmes.

He said with such servicemen less corrupted and imbued with patriotism, almost the same amount of increase in production could be achieved with less funds.

Dr Akuffo stated that Ghana should adopt self-reliance as her economic policy otherwise the nation might be sold to some shylocks of the capitalist world.

"The only means to a self-reliant development is to exhaust our formidable human resources first before going out, cap in hand, to accept any form of loan from nations whose citizens are even more hungry than ourselves," he said.

CSO: 4700/482

AKWATIA DIAMOND MINES RESERVES SEEN DEPLETED

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 7 Dec 81 p 1

[Text]

THE government has directed that a further loan of ₦40 million be granted to the Ghana Consolidated Diamond Limited (GCD) at Akwatisa, to ensure continuous operations.

This is in fulfilment of a pledge made by President Hilla Limann when he visited the company last July.

Mr J. Afful, Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources announced this at the company's 17th annual long service awards ceremony at Akwatisa at which 100 employees who had served between 15 and 25 years were presented with certificates and cash awards.

Mr Afful said as a long-term measure, the government was taking up the problems of the entire mining industry very seriously alongside problems facing other vital sectors of the economy.

The Deputy Minister said in line with its policy of mass labour mobilization, the government expected all involved in the activities of the company to co-operate effectively to ensure maximum output.

He expressed the government's concern about the steep decline of the mine's output since 1973 from 2.4 million carats to barely one million carats.

Mr Afful attributed this to a number of factors including rampant smuggling of diamonds outside the country, and asked the management and the staff to check the situation.

He also warned Ghanaians not to base their hopes on oil, adding that the economy could be improved by exploitation of known resources.

In his welcome address, Mr Joe Ansaful-Mensah, the mine's general manager declared, however, that the mine was no longer economically viable.

According to him factors leading to this situation are the depletion of the Akwatisa diamond reserves, low diamond price, coupled with inequitable exchange rate and ever increasing high cost of operation.

While commending the government for providing loans to keep the mine in operation, he warned that no mine could continue to operate indefinitely on borrowed money without any hope of repaying the borrowings in the foreseeable future.

Mr Ansaful-Mensah said the company could rather be helped with a positive exchange rate policy.

He announced that the exploration programme on the Birim Project was showing favourable results and that a report on the first phase of the feasibility study on it would soon be completed.

CSO: 4700/482

DYNAMIC PARTY LEADER ADVOCATES WHITES' RETURN

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 5 Dec 81 p 3

[Article by Paul Adjei]

[Editor's Note: Please refer to JPRS Sub-Saharan Africa Report No 79665, 15 Dec 81 p 31]

[Text] I READ with keen interest, an article by your columnist Kofi Akumanyi entitled 'Return of the Whites' which was published in the 'Daily Graphic' on Saturday, November 14, 1981, and further noted with interest his candid opinion on the proposal of the Dynamic Party to be formed soon of which I am the leading member.

Perhaps, what went wrong and thus misled him was an omission in the printing of the press statement I issued to explain the purpose for which the Dynamic Party proposes to bring the whiteman back to Ghana.

The purpose is not meant to be a sell out for the Whiteman to exploit or enslave us nor interfere or tamper with our hard-won sovereignty as his references imply. The whiteman is to work sincerely and harmoniously with us as it is done in many African countries — Ivory Coast, Togo and Kenya being cases in point.

Will Akumanyi be astonished to find U.A.C. or C.R.B. Ollivant flooding our markets with their own goods or even Cadbury and Fry purchasing our cocoa in competition with the Cocoa Marketing Board?

We more than often talk of discovery of Oil. Can your columnist in his honest belief and candid opinion tell Ghanaians that he or I myself can get the oil out of the ground for our use? Doesn't he sincerely believe that it can only be done through the whiteman?

For the past twenty-five years since the achievement of our sovereignty, we have not been able to manufacture a safety pin. There is not even enough 'newsprints' even though we have the qualified men including Akumanyi himself to write ten pages on any topic they may be interested but there are no equipment. If the whiteman can provide us with some equipment, what must be wrong with that?

We keep on chasing the whiteman for loans. If he is

really no good to us or no good to live with us, why, don't we leave him alone?

Referring to the weighing of the full implications of bringing the whiteman back to Ghana and his references to countries under colonial rule, the situation in Namibia, Azania, etc. I wish to draw his attention that each and every case merits the facts presented. After all, Gold Coast was equally under colonial rule and what happened to her?

The proper press conference with the media in full attendance is however imminent. I would strongly advise him to bring his team of press men with good questions for which my answers would mean a lot to the electorate.

The significance of the party's symbol "ASANTRO-FIE" simply employs one to discharge one's duties in good faith, truthfulness, sincerity, trustworthiness, honesty and without corruption after which one blamelessly enjoys the fruits of one's labour.

The proceedings of Mr Akumanyi's imaginary and satirical press conference were very splendid and convincing and would hope that his final judgement, would, perhaps, be based on facts.

Some of the main causes of our economic mess and unwarranted situation which we are in now stem from dishonesty, greed, mis-management and the untimely driving away of the whiteman immediately after Independence. There can be no wonder why hasty climbers always have the sudden falls.

The Dynamic Party is bent on the speedy recovery of the economy and the eradication of our present unwarranted plight through the help of the whiteman either materially, financially or otherwise.

Twenty-five years of "endurance", sacrifice, and "tighten your belts" must be bitter lessons to learn. Hence the exodus of our Professionals and skilled men. The planning of the future of our children, I believe, is supreme.

CSO: 4700/482

BRIEFS

BUREAUCRACY BLAMED FOR GRANT LOSS--The Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Hajia Adisa Munkaila has revealed that bureaucratic constraints made Ghana to lose a colossal grant of ₦382,848 (20 million yen) offered by the Japanese government. The grant was earmarked for use by the country's three universities. The Minister revealed this when she received science and sports equipment worth some ₦638,000 (80 million yen) from the Japanese Ambassador in Ghana, Mr Masata Higaki in Accra yesterday. Hajia Munkaila who is also responsible for the Ministry of Education, said the condition for the utilization of the loan was that it should stretch over the Japanese financial year which ended March 31, 1981. "It is sad to say that bureaucratic constraints on our part made it impossible for us to beat the donor's deadline. This cost us dearly," she lamented. Hajia Munkaila said it was a great consolation, however, that the Japanese Government had not only agreed to renew that grant but had also consented to extend its utilization to March 31, 1982.
[Excerpt] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 8 Dec 81 p 8]

CSO: 4700/482

GUINEA

BRIEFS

DISSIDENTS QUESTIONED IN FRANCE--Paris, December 12--About 30 opponents of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Touré's regime have been taken in for questioning in France, Guinean Ambassador Aboubacar Sompore said here Friday. French sources confirmed the detentions and questioning, which Mr. Sompore said led to discovery of arms and ammunition to be used in a bid to overthrow Mr. Sekou Touré. The Guinean President said earlier this week that he was waiting for French action against his exiled opponents before doing anything about eight Guinean political prisoners whose release France has sought. The eight are married to Frenchwomen. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English 15 Dec 81 p 16]

CSO: 4700/482

RAILWAYS TO ACQUIRE NEW FUEL TANKER FOR LAKE

Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 28 Nov-4 Dec 81 p 1

[Text]

MALAWI Railways is to acquire a new 300 tonne capacity fuel tanker to replace the ageing MV Mpasa, built 46 years ago as a cargo ship but later converted into a tanker. The new vessel will greatly improve the supply of fuel to the Northern Region.

The Mpasa, which transports fuel to the northern port of Chilumba, has a capacity of 120 tonnes of fuel and 60 tonnes of cargo.

A contract to built the new tanker will be signed in December. The boat will be built by West German shipbuilders Deggendorfer Werft und Eisenbau (DWE), and will be ready for assembly at Monkey Bay in the first quarter of 1983. The West German Finance Company is providing money for the project.

This will be the second vessel in the Malawi Railways' fleet to be financed and built by the West Germans. The first was the K7.5 million, 450 passenger ship Mtendere, which was commissioned last year.

INCREASE

Malawi Railways Assistant General Manager (Technical Services), Mr. Wally Gordon, said the new tanker has been designed in such a way that its capacity can be increased according to demand in future.

It will also be capable of carrying diesel, petrol, paraffin and a small amount of lubricating oil in a single trip, he said. The Mpasa, which was converted into a tanker in 1968 can carry only one type of fuel per voyage. It also needs frequent repairs to keep it going.

There are two other cargo ships plying the waters of the lake: the 200 tonne Nkhwazi, built in 1956 and the 300 tonne Karonga, built in 1975.

The two other passenger ships, the Ilala, built in 1949, and the Chauncy Maples, built in 1898 but converted in 1968 to carry passengers and cargo, do not transport fuel.

BRIEFS

CENTRAL RESERVE BANK INAUGURATED--Lilongwe, Wednesday--His Excellency the Life President, Ngwazi Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda, said here today that the opening of the new, magnificent Reserve Bank building in the Capital has confounded his critics who, soon after independence, argued that the country could not have afforded a central bank of its own because it had "a penny economy." Addressing a mass rally today at the Kamuzu Institute for Sport after opening the K10.3 million new Reserve Bank building, the Life President said he was happy that he did not listen to the so-called experts who in 1965 opposed his idea of establishing the bank, because the country's economy has improved for the better as a result of its sound currency which would have not been the case if the currency was tied to either Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) or the East African countries. [Excerpt] [Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 26 Nov 81 p 1]

MAIZE STATISTICS--Maize purchases by the Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) have reached record levels this year, confirming the outstanding recovery in the production of Malawi's staple food crop following the bad droughts of 1979 and 1980. By the middle of November this year, Admarc had bought 136,486 tonnes of maize, 46,000 tonnes more than at the same time last year, an official said this week. And he was quick to point out that the Corporation's purchases reflect only a small percentage of the country's total maize production--estimated to be between 1.5 to 1.8 million tonnes. Most maize grown by smallholders is kept for their own consumption. But the maize purchased by Admarc, the parastatal body responsible for buying crops from small farmers throughout the country, forms a vital reserve which can prevent Malawi having to spend valuable foreign exchange on importing maize should local production drop. Because of the drought in 1979, Malawi had to import 25,000 tonnes of Maize from Zimbabwe and South Africa last year. Maize purchases in the Central Region registered the biggest increase, jumping from last year's 62,700 tonnes to 94,400 tonnes this year. This is 4,000 tonnes more than Admarc's total maize purchases for the whole country last year. Purchases in the Northern Region also took a leap. They are up from 20,191 tonnes last year to 35,383 tonnes. But purchases were down by over 1,000 tonnes in the Southern Region from 7,745 tonnes last year. [Text] [Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 5-11 Dec 81 p 1]

CSO: 4700/476

THREATS TO LIVES OF LEGISLATORS TO BE INVESTIGATED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Nov 81 p 7

[Article by Abiola Ajoni]

[Text]

THREATS to the lives of senators and assemblymen is now to be investigated by the Senate Committee on Internal Affairs.

The Senate passed a motion authorising the committee to investigate threats to the security and independence of senators, in particular and other assemblymen in the performance of their legislative functions.

The motion, tabled by Senator Garba Dada and amended by Senator Onyeabo Obi, asked the committee to recommend safe guards and remedies to threats of security it might find.

Senator Dada invoked a Senate standing order to have the Senate suspend its business and discuss the issue, following a disclosure by Senator Sikiru Shitta-Bey that his life was in danger.

Senator Shitta-Bey had told the Senate that his life was being threatened because he spoke in the Senate against the educational policy of the Lagos State Government.

Senator Dada said there was danger ahead if senators could not speak without undue harassment. He, therefore, called for a probe.

Supporting, Senator Basil Okwu said the issue showed that the country was drifting.

On his part, Senator Cornelius Adebayo said it was not the

business of the Senate to settle differences between a senator and his state government.

In his contribution, Senator Uba Ahmed said Senator Shitta-Bey like late Adegoke Adelabu and Arthur Prest was being sacrificed for fighting corruption and upholding the constitutional provision that the Assembly shall oversee the activities of the executive.

Opposing the proposed investigation, Senator F. Atake said the Senate has no powers to investigate an attempt to commit a criminal offence, adding that Senator Shitta-Bey should seek redress from the attorney-general or the police.

Also opposing, Senator Abraham Adesanya referring to the Senate Standing Order pointed out that it was wrong for the Senate to receive a petition for which there was a judicial remedy.

While Senate President, Dr. Joseph Wayas pointed out that the issue before the Senate was not petitionary, Senator Onyeabo Obi argued that the Senate could investigate the matter under section 82 of the constitution.

Senator Obi said section 82 (1) (A) gave the Senate the power via a resolution, to cause investigation into any matter on which it has powers to make laws.

CSO: 4700/475

KANO POLICE DENY ASSASSINATION REPORT

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 10 Dec 81 p 3

[Article by Michael Reis]

[Text] THE Kano State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Sani Wali, has described as outrageous, unfounded and without any iota of truth the allegation that some political opponents of the PRP (Imoudou faction) with the co-operation of the police have hatched a plan to kill the Governor of the state, Alhaji Mohammed Abubakar Rimi.

In a release issued last Tuesday, the commissioner said that the police command has nothing against the governor, adding that it was rather the duty of the police to protect both the government and the governor of the state.

Alhaji Sani Wali said that if such plot had been hatched it was the duty of the governor to report same to the police rather than involving the police command in the plot.

He said the allegation should be viewed as another gimmick meant for the consumption of unscrupulous party followers.

"The sooner the state government take the police into greater confidence, the better it will be for the state and its people," the commissioner declared.

He, however, said the police would continue investigating the basis of the allegations and advised everybody to remain calm and to go about their business peacefully.

Meanwhile, the police in Kano have invited the Press Secretary to the State Governor, Malam Sully Abu for interrogation.

Police sources said yesterday that the press secretary was invited to substantiate the allegation contained in a press statement he issued sometime last week.

The statement alleged that there was a plot to assassinate the State Governor, Alhaji Mohammed Abubakar Rimi in which the police, Malam Aminu Kano and the NPN were said to be behind the plot.

The police sources said the allegations were serious enough to warrant Malam Sully Abu to be invited for questioning.

In another development, a middle-aged man who on Tuesday killed his wife is now with the police.

The man attacked his wife with a matchet in an office where she works as a typist as a result of alleged infidelity.

The man was quoted as saying he had no regret for his action, adding that his wife abandoned him for a rich man said to be in charge of the office she worked. He will soon appear in court.

CSO: 4700/478

OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE REPORTED

Doma, Plateau State

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Dec 81 p 16

[Article by M. A. Aliyu Biu]

[Text] THERE was a riot in Doma in Plateau State at the weekend when the Deputy Governor of Plateau State, Alhaji Mohammed Danladi Yakubu, went there to launch the movement for the creation of Middle Belt State.

As a result of the riot, the Deputy Governor's personal Mercedes Benz 280 SEL and 15 other vehicles were smashed. A Peugeot 504 car belonging to the Deputy Speaker of the Plateau House of Assembly, Mr. Matthew Attah Akwe, was also burnt. The Police DPO in Doma and two other persons were beaten up

and were as a result admitted into the Lafiya General Hospital.

It all started after the members of the Movement for Middle Belt State, got a police permit to hold a rally in Doma. Sources said that some prominent citizens of Doma who were, however, opposed to the rally organised people to disrupt it.

On getting a hint, the police officer intercepted the Chairman for the movement, Alhaji Adamu Musa, the NPN leader in Doma, Alhaji Zakari Yakubu and 18 others at the Doma/Lafiya boundary and urged them to call off the rally.

As the DPO was trying to persuade them, the Deputy Governor was reported to have arrived and said they would go ahead with the rally. He said since the

permit had been given, it was the duty of the police to protect them.

As the arguments were going on, some people came out from the bush and started throwing stones and other missiles at the DPO, the leaders of the movement and at the crowd already gathered for the rally. The crowd was reported to have chased back the ambushers.

On arrival at Doma, the car of the Deputy Governor was smashed, a taxi driver's ears cut and the Deputy Speaker's car set ablaze.

Contacted, the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Olatunji Gnadebo, confirmed the story and said that he had just received a report from his Assistant Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Bagaji, about the incident and that the matter would be investigated.

Kura, Kano State

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 10 Dec 81 p 17

[Text] VIOLENCE broke out in Kura Local Government area of Kano State last Monday evening and left one person dead and several others injured.

Several vehicles and a plywood shed were burnt down during the violence.

The cause of the violence is yet to be established, but it was believed that the clash was bet-

ween the two factions of the PRP in the area.

An eye-witness told the New Nigerian that the clash began shortly after the governor of the state, Alhaji Mohammed Abubakar Rimi, had passed through the local government area, on his way to Bebeji Local Government area, to launch the Water Resources Engineering

Construction Agency Week.

The eye-witness said people among the crowd that trooped out to see the governor seized and smashed the photograph of the governor which was carried by one of his supporters.

A fierce argument followed which ended up in the violent clash in which supporters of both factions of the party were said to

have freely used daggers, clubs, cutlasses and other dangerous weapons.

The office of the PRP (Imoudi faction) in the local government area and two buses also belonging to the faction were burnt, the eye-witness said.

However, when contacted, the chairman of the local government area, Alhaji Garba Adamu, said he was aware of the intended violence long ago.

He said he wrote a letter to the state commissioner of police and to the Nigerian Security Organisation (NSO) about two weeks ago on the intended clash.

He said the police on duty on

the day of clash could not control the situation as they were only two.

He said he had rushed to the house of the divisional police officer in the area which was about 60 kilometres from Kura Local Government area, adding that the demonstrators had already dispersed before the police got there.

Contacted, the state Commission of Police, Alhaji Sani Wali, confirmed the incident.

Speaking on the Kano Television yesterday, Alhaji Sani Wali, assured that thorough investigation would be made into the cause of the clash.

CSO: 4700/478

REASONS FOR CATTLE TRADE INCREASE ANALYZED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Dec 81 p 20

[Article by Francis Talabi: "Cattle Trade Rose by 4.76 Percent Last Year--Survey"]

[Text] THE first quarterly report on Livestock market survey of the Federal Livestock Department showed that a total of 276,127 heads of cattle were recorded for trade purposes during the first quarter of last year.

This showed an increase of 4.76 per cent or 13,459 heads of cattle compared with the preceding quarter, October to December, 1979.

The report also indicated an increase of 4.75 per cent or 13,138 heads of cattle compared with the corresponding quarter, January to March 1979.

The sharp rise, according to the report, was mainly due to an increase in the number of cattle reported for trade from Borno, Plateau, Kaduna and Niger states.

Local trade cattle for the quarter under review, according to the report, were 175,499 or 63.5 per cent of the recorded total as against 177,018 recorded during the previous quarter of October to December 1979. A decline of 1,519 or 0.86 per cent heads of cattle was recorded compared to the preceding quarter, October to December of last year, the report added.

It stated that this slight decline on local trade cattle was recorded from Bauchi, Gongola, Plateau and Sokoto states.

However, an increase of 4,069

heads of cattle was recorded if this same figure of 175,499 was compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, January to March 1979 which had a recorded total of 171,430 cattle.

Dealing on imported trade cattle, the report stated that about 100,628 heads of cattle were imported into the country during the quarter under review.

This represented 36.5 per cent of the total cattle recorded for trade during this quarter. It also indicated a rise by 14,978 heads of cattle if compared with the preceding quarter, October to December of last year, said the report.

The reason was due to more cattle imports recorded from Sokoto, Kaduna and Gongola states.

The report further stated that during this quarter, a total of 160,110 heads of cattle were sent to the southern states from the north and that about 25.9 per cent and 32.08 per cent was recorded if compared with the corresponding and preceding quarters of last year respectively.

This, it stated, was mostly due to the general realisation that less risk was associated with transportation by rail and road.

For example, it went on, herders have occasionally expressed loss of animals en-route and most of the animals also reduced drastically in weight by the time they reached their

destinations.

The report stated that about 90,738 heads of cattle were transported to the southern part of the country by lorry during this quarter which represented about 56.7 per cent of the total cattle transported to the south. The number, it went on, was 14,292 less than the figure recorded for the preceding quarter of 1979 and the 15.75 per cent decline was mostly recorded from Sokoto. This meant a decrease of 19,703 heads of cattle was recorded if compared with the corresponding quarter of 1979 — January to March—which had a total of 110,441.

It also disclosed that 28,014 heads of cattle were sent down by rail to the southern part of the country which represented 17.4 per cent of the total cattle transported to the south, an increase of 7,617 heads of cattle recorded if compared with the preceding quarter of 1979.

The report also dealt with small livestock such as locally produced sheep, goats and pigs that went into trade between January and March, 1980. It indicated that a slight decrease of 3,633 for sheep and 8,982 for goats was recorded if compared with the preceding quarter, October to December of last year.

With reports from only Kaduna and Kano, a general decline on importation of small livestock mainly from Kano was recorded for the quarter.

It observed a general increase

of slaughter figures from all species of livestock if compared with the preceding quarter of 1979. It gave the increase as follows: 16.2 per cent for cattle, 11.72 per cent for goats, 7 per cent for sheep, 21.72 per cent for pigs and 26.4 per cent for camels.

The slaughter figures for Kano and Niger states, it said, had considerably increased if compared with those of the previous years, adding that this was due to intensified efforts being made to collect data from the grass-roots of the states.

CSO: 4700/478

BRIEFS

ABUJA WATER SUPPLY--The central area of the Federal Capital, Abuja, now has a steady supply of water from the Jabi Dam. The Director of Engineering Services, Mr. E.A. Aguele, made this known while outlining the activities of his department at the fifth co-ordinating meeting of the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) infrastructural consultants on Abuja projects. Work on the dam, which started in February this year, is nearing completion. Mr. Aguele said before the commissioning date in June, 1982, all taps in the central area, north-west district area and other district areas in Abuja would have water before movement to Abuja starts in September 1982. The people affected by the Jabi Dam project are to be resettled by the authority at the Jabi Transit Camp opposite the dam site. About 100 families have so far moved to the camp while final movement was expected to finish by the end of last month. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Dec 81 p 15]

EGBIN THERMAL STATION--Work on the construction of the thermal power station at Egbin, in Ikorodu Division of Lagos State, is expected to be completed in 1985. The project, which is being undertaken by the National Electricity Power Authority (NEPA), is estimated to cost 476 million Naira. The Minister of Mines and Power, Alhaji Mohammed Hassan disclosed this during an inspection tour of the construction site where he was accorded a warm reception by the local community. With him on the visit was his colleague in the Ministry of Housing and Environment, Dr. Wahab Dosumu. He explained that the construction of the thermal power station was part of the efforts of the Federal Government to increase electricity supply to consumers in Lagos State. This was in realisation of the fact that about 47 per cent of the total electricity generated in the country was consumed in the state, he said. The minister further revealed plans to build 400 housing units, a medical centre, a school and a shopping centre for those displaced by the project. He added that the affected people would be given option to choose to build their own houses or allow the government to build for them. In their address of welcome, the people of Egbin and environ, told the minister that they were happy for the take-over of their land for such a laudable project. They however, pleaded for early payment of compensation for their landed property. They also requested the Federal Government to help preserve the areas where their ancestral shrines were located. [Bisi Oloyede] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Dec 81 p 15]

MAIDUGURI PTT CORRUPTION--Administrative indiscipline is now very rife in the Maiduguri Post and Telecommunications Department in Borno State. It is apparent

that the various dubious activities now going on in the department can be easily attributable to the fall in discipline. Some dubious characters in the P. & T. Maiduguri have formed themselves into a syndicate and have allegedly been disconnecting some subscribers' telephone lines illegally and selling such lines to fresh applicants at up to 2,000 Naira per line. Further investigations carried out in the engineering department of the organisation showed that some technicians responsible for repairing faulty telephones no longer take instructions even from their most superior officers in cases connected with the repairing of faulty telephones. It is alleged that they mostly repair telephones they like which were, in most cases, the telephones of businessmen who dash them huge sums of money for such repairs. A reliable source said some of the chaps in the engineering department had introduced a short-term measure of getting money quick whenever they were broke. The source said these technicians deliberately spoil the telephone of some wealthy businessmen whenever they wanted money and shortly afterwards begin to loiter around the premises so affected until they meet the subscriber who would in turn invite them for "a deal". My source said the situation in the P. & T. Maiduguri has deteriorated to an extent whereby everybody feels he is the boss and does whatever he likes. He said this could have been so because even the territorial controller in the state, let alone the district engineer, could neither sack nor suspend any permanent staff even those on grade level 01. [Sani Haruna] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Dec 81 p 11]

GONGOLA TOMATO INDUSTRY CLOSED--The Gongola Tomato Industry in Lau has been shut down since September due to scarcity of raw materials, the General Manager of the company, Alhaji Umaru Abdullahi, has said. Alhaji Umaru told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Yola that the company had to import tomota concentrates, because local production of tomatoes could not cope with the company's demand. He also said that the company's tomato farm would be enlarged from 1,000 to 2,000 hectares and that the Upper Benue River Development Authority had also been asked to establish a tomato farm near the factory. The general manager said that the factory needed about five million Naira to make it viable and to obtain this money, the company would have to restructure its share and seek bank loans. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Dec 81 p 16]

NEW SHIPPING POLICY--A new national shipping policy has been announced for the country. Under it Nigerian ships are to carry at least 40 percent of the volume and value of the country's exports and imports. The policy allows ships of foreign nations to carry 40 percent of imports to Nigeria while 20 percent of the exports and imports are placed under general. The minister of transport, Dr Umaru Dikko, announced this in Lagos today at a news conference. Dr Dikko explained that the new policy had become imperative in view of the role of shipping, insurance and banking industries in any country's economy. The federal government, he said, had directed all international shipping interests operating in the country to comply with the global practice of transmitting payments in foreign currency for port services. The minister stated that the new policy, which comes into effect next Friday, was to encourage indigenous participation in the procurement of ships and the shipping trade. [Text] [AB291604 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 29 Dec 81]

LAGOS WATER SHORTAGE--Acute shortage of water has hit Lagos and its environs. The shortage which was (?noticed) early this week is forcing many people to trek long distances in search of water for domestic use. The causes of the shortage have not been identified but a spokesman of the Lagos state water corporation said that some machines were under service. A RADIO NIGERIA correspondent said that children and housewives were seen today still looking for drinking water while a housewife told our correspondent that the prices of well water for daily use had increased astronomically. Areas strongly hit are Mushi, Palm Grove, Ikeja Obaninbe, Surulere and Victoria Island. [Text] [AB301820 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Dec 81]

KAGARA DAM PROJECT--Construction work on the six million Naira dam at Kagara in Rafi Local Government area of Niger State is expected to be completed in May next year. The contract for the project was awarded by the state government to the Water Resources Construction Agency (WRECA) in January last year. The project when completed would cover an irrigation area of about 1,200 hectares of land and it will also be used for fisheries, recreation and life conservation. Disclosing this at Kagara, the Project Engineer for the dam Alhaji Garba Usman said that the project would also supply good drinking water to three town namely Kagara, Pandogari and Tegina as well as other resettlement areas in the district. He said that the project would be provided with a multi-purpose reservoir with a storage capacity of 43 million cubic litres of water annually. The engineer further explained that compensations will soon be paid to all the people affected by the project because necessary information required for the payment of the compensation has almost been compiled. He however said that inadequate finance had affected work on the project particularly concerning houses rented to officials of the agency undertaking the project. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 1 Dec 81 p 2]

'NEWSWEEK' AIRCRAFT STORY DENIED--Federal Government has described as untrue a story in the 'Newsweek' magazine that South Africa has sold a trainer aircraft to Nigeria. A statement by the Executive Office of the President said on Monday in Lagos that the Federal Government's attention had been drawn to the reference made to Nigeria in a feature article titled 'The new arms merchants' published in the November 9 issue of the magazine. The Federal Government said the story was one of the evil machinations of the South African Government and some Western powers to undermine the efforts of Nigeria to end apartheid in South Africa. It added that the story was calculated to tarnish Nigeria's reputation 'as well as stultify her contributions to the overall continental struggle for total freedom. The Federal Government said the article was a clever ruse designed to advertise the stockpile of arms which were manufactured by South Africa with the assistance of its diabolic allies in order to throw African nations into fright' [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Dec 81 p 9]

CSO: 4700/480

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGIOUS BROADCASTS NOTED

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 30 Nov 81 p 2

[Article by Philibert Ranson]

[Text]

Customarily, religious broadcasts are free-of-charge to religious denominations throughout Africa and indeed the world over. However, a controversial decision by the Rwandese government to charge and restrict religious broadcasts has generated a strong response from church leaders there.

"IT IS understood, within the UNESCO milieu particularly, that religion is part and parcel of culture. Promotion and dissemination of cultural values being one of the duties of a radio station, religious programmes for all churches should be allowed for broadcasting."

With this statement, the International Catholic Association for Radio and Television (UNDA) entered the fray recently in a sharpening dispute between Christian churches and the Rwandese government over its policies on religious broadcasts.

The Government's Information and Broadcasting Department recently announced that all religious programmes would have to be paid for. In addition, it ordered the Protestant and Catholic Churches to broadcast their Sunday services on alternating Sundays in addition to other restrictive measures.

The Rwandese Catholic Bishops, whose followers consist of about half of the population of 4.5 million in the tiny Central African nation, swiftly rejected the call to alternate Sunday service broadcasts, noting that such a scheme would tend to "bring confusion into the minds of our followers." Protestants account for about 15 per cent of the population, Muslims 5 per cent, while the rest are traditionalists.

While applauding the

Government's decision to allow time for Protestant Sunday broadcasts, the Bishops said, "We are against your order of alternatively using the media, for you've taken the decision without consulting either us or the Protestant Council."

COPIES

The Government letter was made in reply to a request by the Rwandese Council of Protestants requesting time for Sunday programming. The Protestant Council's general secretary said he found the letter inconsistent and said that copies were in the hands of Government and Catholic leaders even before reaching him, although the Council had authored the original programme request.

Catholic Church leadership also strongly criticised instituting fees for the programmes, though UNDA indicated that it would pay the fees if necessary. The Catholic broadcast organisation said that Rwanda would be the only country out of 120 with UNDA members which sold time for religious programmes.

The Government letter also reportedly warned the churches that indulging in political matters through their programmes would lead to the automatic suspension of their radio time. "In common language," the Bishops responded, "you want to mean: 'bring copies of your homilies

for approval.' If that is the case, you deny the political maturity of our preachers and so you are infringing their rights of free expression. We would like to let you know that it is not a haphazard (point) that the Rwandese constitution provides in one and the same article the freedom of religion and of expression."

The Government letter even threatened that religious programme might be dropped eventually because of a heavily loaded radio schedule. The Bishops countered, saying, that the total programme schedule did not exceed one hundred hours weekly, taking less than 15 hours of air time per day. "Even if the radio programme schedule were over-loaded," queried the Bishops, "we wonder why the religious programmes are the first to be gotten rid off."

The conflict dates from at least 1974 when the Catholic Church reluctantly agreed to pay for religious programmes excluding Sunday services. When the then Ministry of Information was changed into a parastatal department under the President's Office, the new leadership began claiming money for Sunday services. The Catholic Church stubbornly refused.

ANTI-CLERICALS

Anti-clericals and embittered former seminarians highly

placed in the broadcasting bureaucracy are reported to be behind the current troubles over religious programming. In fact, the programming decision was apparently a compromise between anti-church elements, who rejected the provision of free Sunday services, and pro-church elements who championed the inclusion of Protestant broadcasts.

A long-time observer of the government scene recently hinted that the leadership of the state-owned media was due to change shortly. A veteran military aide to the President, Major Mugabo, a Protestant, will likely be appointed as the new boss of the Department of Information and Broadcasting.

Meanwhile, a Protestant leader has offered a compromise arrangement which calls for the two churches to share two hours for their Sunday programming. Apparently, the proposal has received the endorsement of other church leaders but, thus far, no response from the government.

CSO: 4700/479

RWANDA

BRIEFS

NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY--Nairobi, 28 Dec (AFP)--Some two million Rwandan voters began going to the polls today to vote for an expanded, 64 deputy legislative assembly, known as the National Council for Development. The last assembly was dissolved after the current president, Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, seized power in a bloodless military coup in 1973. The president, on leaving a polling booth today, said that he had stuck to his post-coup promise to pursue until completed the process of democratization in the country. He also expressed hope that all ministers who were running for the assembly would be elected. Observers considered the election as a somewhat prudent step towards the restoration of democracy in Rwanda, rocked by tribal massacres in the 1960's and early 70's, and a planned military coup in 1980. Only candidates put forward by Rwanda's sole political party, the National Revolutionary Movement for Development, were allowed to run. Individual candidates were barred from campaigning personally, and any who did so were threatened with sanctions. There was no immediate indication about the size of voter turnout. Results are expected to be announced on Thursday. [Text] [AB282051 Paris AFP in English 1659 GMT 28 Dec 81]

CSO: 4700/485

SEYCHELLES

BRIEFS

WESTERN NATIONS' ATTITUDE--Victoria, 1 Jan (AFP)--A pro-government newspaper here has criticized Western countries for failing to take action against South Africa's release of the hijackers of an Air India jetliner following the abortive invasion of the Seychelles at the end of November. The government was finding it difficult not to call Western countries hypocrites for not taking action against South Africa, the DAILY NATION newspaper, which reflects the views of the Seychelles Government, said in an editorial for its special new years edition. A 1978 anti-hijacking agreement among Western nations calls for a boycott against countries that do not try or extradite hijackers, the paper said. It said that such punishment had been inflicted on Afghanistan under the same agreement. The people of Seychelles are questioning the sincerity of the messages of support extended by some Western countries in the wake of the mercenary invasion, the paper said. The plane was hijacked for the escape following the coup attempt. The newspaper also printed photos of all mercenaries in captivity here. They were identified as Bernard Carey of Britain, Roger England and Aubrey Brooks of Zimbabwe, and Jeremiah Puren, Martin Dolincheck, Robert Sims and his girlfriend, Susan Ingles, all of South Africa. [Text] [AB011639 Paris AFP in English 1631 GMT 1 Jan 82]

CSO: 4700/483

VARIOUS AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH INDIA

Paris AFRICA AFP in English No 2849, 27 Nov 81 p 19

[Text] New-Delhi, November 25--Indo-Ugandan relations have received a significant boost with the two countries signing four cooperation agreements in different fields here.

The agreements, signed yesterday in the presence of visiting Ugandan President Milton Obote and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, cover economic and technical cooperation, trade, culture and agriculture.

Under the five-year economic, scientific and technical cooperation agreement India agrees to assist Uganda in exploration and exploitation of crude oil, natural gas and other mineral resources and in the establishment of industries. The agreement also covers joint ventures, transport and communications, training programmes and scholarships.

At a press conference, Mr. Obote said he would not be seeking the extradition of former dictator Idi Amin (reported to be in Saudi Arabia) because his Government was using its limited resources for economic development rather than "wasting" them on Amin.

Mr. Obote categorically denied reports that "death houses" still existed in Uganda. "Those are pure fabrication of Western news media. We have Red Cross teams visiting various places in our country every week, they have yet to find a death house", he said, adding : "Nasty things are printed in the Western press about Uganda. What can I do about it except asking the journalists to be fair?"

Inviting Indian businessmen to invest in his country, the President said : "Uganda is now safe for investment... I have come here to seek the blood transfusion required to revive the economy of my country. Uganda's decade of shame is over and I have come to India as representative of a new Uganda."

CSO: 4700/474

BRIEFS

GUERRILLA TRAINING--Kampala, November 25--Fifteen people, including an opposition Democratic Party Member of Parliament, Alex Waibale, have been arrested in connection with an alleged attempt to form guerrilla training camps in the eastern Jinja and Iganga districts, Uganda radio said, quoting a statement issued here today by Internal Minister John Luwuliwa Kirunda. The arrested men had already appeared in court. Five had admitted involvement and ten had denied the charges. Mr. Waibale served briefly as Speaker of the Ugandan interim parliament, the National Consultative Council, last year and was voted into Parliament on the ticket of the main opposition Democratic Party. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English No 2849, 27 Nov 81 p 19]

EEC GRANT FOR COFFEE--The Commission of the European Communities (EEC) has decided to grant 25 million ECU or 2.05 billion Shillings to Uganda to finance a coffee rehabilitation programme. The purpose of the project is to halt a further decline of the coffee industry and to revive the sector by providing essential means of production and processing and to stimulate coffee production and export. The project will provide for inputs, supplies to coffee producers of both Arabica and Robusta and provide spraying and pruning facilities for the coffee farmers. Coffee factories will be repaired, nurseries and demonstration farms and stations will be rehabilitated as well as research facilities. The project also includes provision of transport packaging materials and other important supplies. The training facilities for cooperative and agriculture will be rehabilitated and technical assistance will be provided for implementing the project over the coming three years. [Text] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 1 Dec 81 p 1]

COCOA, OTHER PRICES UP--The price to be paid to cocoa producers has been increased from 3/20 to 20/- a kilogramme. The government has also announced new rates for various services and abolished facilities for the purchase of excursion tickets from Uganda Airlines in local currency. A government statement signed by the Minister of Internal Affairs now holding the portfolio of Minister of Finance, Dr Luwuliza Kirunda, said this was in line with the policy of reviewing tariffs and rates charged for services, and the prices paid to the farmers. With effect from yesterday rates for domestic water supply have been raised by one-third of the current price, and the rate for plants and buildings have been adjusted accordingly. The price of kerosene, ex-depot, has also been raised from 30/40 per litre to 35/- per litre. [Text] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 4 Dec 81 p 1]

FOOD AVAILABLE IN KAMPALA--After interviewing a number of Kampala residents, the UGANDA NEWS AGENCY (UNA) correspondents say that Kampala residents had cause to be happy this Christmas. Most of the Kampala residents interviewed revealed that for the first time in many years many commodities were available on the open market. UNA correspondents observed that on the eve of Christmas, meat, green bananas and other foodstuffs were bought peacefully on the open market. Basing their conclusion on the interviews of the different residents in Kampala, UNA correspondents say that if things go at this pace, it will not be long when Uganda, the pearl of Africa, shall rise and shine again. [Excerpts] [EA262146 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Dec 81]

CSO: 4700/484

ZERBO ANNOUNCES SALARY INCREASES OF 10, 15 PERCENT

AB301102 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Speech by Upper Volta head of state Saye Zerbo during the traditional ceremony of presentation of new year wishes in Ouagadougou on 29 December--recorded]

[Excerpts] Ladies and gentlemen and representatives of the corporate bodies: The year about to end has surely given us many opportunities to assess our actions as well as the objectives we assigned ourselves in the conduct of state affairs. It is, of course, the responsibility of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress [CMRPN] and the government to define our objectives and the ways and means of achieving them but it is the duty of the entire people to put all these objectives into concrete form.

For a duration which it is impossible to determine, we will continue to act and react in a situation of crisis, harsh realities and incompressible economic difficulties. But we must overcome all these: the inflation, which is making havoc of the incomes of all individuals, is no less harmful to the state at this time when we must make significant progress in the modernization, improvement and diversification of our production apparatus. Despite this and in view of the degradation of our civil servants' purchasing power, the CMRPN and its government have decided to increase salaries as of 1 January 1982 and as follows: Categories A and B workers and equivalents: 10 percent salary increase; categories C and D workers and equivalents: 15 percent increase. These increases are perhaps insignificant but they still represent something considering the weakness of our public finances in the face of numerous constraints.

The word "ambitious" has often been used in connection with the objectives we have assigned ourselves. This means that we must arm ourselves with an exceptional working capacity and the will to surpass ourselves. In this connection, all the citizens of Upper Volta must prove that they are ambitious. I know--we all know--that this will be terribly difficult but we can and must succeed!

The objective of certain decisions taken during the past few months was only to ensure the maintenance of social peace which some people were trying to disturb under the pretext of exercising trade union freedom. The adoption of these decisions does not at all mean that the CMRPN intends to break its promise of

guaranteeing to the people the exercise of individual and collective freedoms; rather, they were taken in order to face a situation which threatened to destabilize the state and plunge the nation into serious convulsions. Now that the storm seems to have passed away, the CMPRN--which, since its advent has affirmed its determination to make the labor organizations its privileged partners--will soon work to reestablish a normal situation in this regard. But this will be done in accordance with the principle which has always guided the CMPRN: that is everything must be done to ensure that all conflicts between social partners are solved through frank and sincere negotiations and in the constant awareness that each of us has more duties than rights to claim from our dear fatherland. It is obvious that all of us must make sacrifices.

CSO: 4719/372

BRIEFS

PAMPHLETS ON 'FASCIST PLOT'--Ouagadougou, November 28--Members of the Upper Volta General Students Union (UGEV) distributed pamphlets here today attacking the Military Government's "vast Fascist plot" and urging its supporters to "abandon legality" following an official ban on strikes and dissolution of one of the main trade union organisations. UGEV, considered to be close to the clandestine Upper Volta Revolutionary Communist Party (PCRV), has a strong following at Ouagadougou University and among Volta students abroad. The Government, which came to power one year ago, banned strikes at the beginning of this month and last week dissolved the Volta Confederation of Unions (CSV). The students' pamphlet accused "reformist" union leaders of being in a "sordid social contract" with the Government.
[Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English No 2850, 1 Dec 81 p 16]

CSO: 4700/474

MUGABE SIGNS FRIENDSHIP PACT WITH MOZAMBIQUE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Zimbabwe and Mozambique signed a friendship agreement yesterday at the end of Prime Minister Mr Mugabe's five-day official visit.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, Mr Mugabe said relations with Mozambique were so good it was not necessary for the two countries to sign an accord, but added:

"We must inspire our people and from time to time demonstrate that our friendship exists, lest the enemy begins to have wrong thoughts that our friendship is falling apart. "An accord of this nature proves him wrong."

But Mr Mugabe stressed that unless such documents translated themselves into practice they would become meaningless.

"I can assure you that I am going back home much more determined than I came to ensure that the practice of our relationship is not forgotten during the phase of our bilateral relationship."

The signing came at the end of the Prime Minister's tour of the Mozambican provinces of Sofala, Cabo Delgado and Gaza.

Yesterday morning, while on a trip to Gaza, the Prime Minister and some of his ministers visited the Macarretane dam and bridge on the Limpopo which were destroyed by Rhodesian forces on September 5, 1979.

The Rhodesian forces lost a helicopter in the ensuing fight and 27 of their men were killed.

The wreck of the helicopter is still next to the ruins of what was once a housing unit for the Mozambican armed forces, FPLM.

Gaza is the granary of Mozambique and provides milk and dairy products. The bombing of the dam and the bridge was an attempt to cut off the supply route to Maputo. Both the dam and the bridge are in full working condition.

The Prime Minister had come to thank Gaza people for their role in the liberation war and to see development, especially agricultural.

Mr Mugabe was showered with gifts of animals, craftwork and other items. He has received many presents from each visit to different Mozambique areas. The Mozambican leader gave the Prime Minister a grandfather clock and other gifts.

A joint communique issued at the end of the visit said the two leaders had exchanged information and had analysed the international situation, especially Southern Africa.

An action programme on the use of energy to the benefit of the two countries was also formulated. The two sides agreed to co-operate in the field of geology and mines, particularly in areas along their common borders.

CSO: 4700/481

MUGABE VISITS FORMER BASES IN MOZAMBIQUE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 9

[Article by Davison Maruziva]

[Text]

MONDAY December 21 was the second anniversary of the Lancaster House Agreement, which ushered in Zimbabwe's independence. To mark that occasion, the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, left Maputo for Mozambique's provinces, which had formed operational bases for attacks into what was then Rhodesia.

The first stop was Sofala — the capital of which is Beira — because of its significance in the history of Zimbabwe's chimurenga.

It was in Beira that the commanders of the freedom fighters formulated the struggle and obtained such weapons as AKs, bazookas and mortar bombs.

Again it was in Beira that the decision was made to establish bases for the raising of the political consciousness of the people of Zimbabwe and to intensify the war of independence.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Ministers Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, Dr Nathan Shamuyuriria, Dr Witness Mangwende and Mrs Teural Ropa Nhongo as well as Senator Tsitsi Munyati visited Sofala province to thank the residents of the area for their "unstinting support and hospitality".

The Minister of In-

dustry and Energy Development, Dr Simbarashe Makoni, the Minister of Transport, Mr Josiah Chinamano and the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr Moses Mvenge, remained in Maputo evaluating agreements already concluded between the two countries.

Before leaving Beira after a three-hour stop-over the delegation was briefed on developments at Beira harbour which are aimed at increasing its handling capacity. The delegation later toured the harbour.

Beira harbour is being developed to handle more than 4 million tonnes, and the main traffic for the port will be from both Zimbabwe and Malawi.

The renewal of the rail line and the harbour development are expected to cost an estimated \$30 million and is within the framework of the SADCC development projects.

The railway line can cope with 10 trains a day

but is very under-utilised.

To meet the expected demand for the use of the harbour, major extensions and the deepening of the harbour are being studied.

After a three-hour stay in Beira the delegation left for the Mozambique-Tanzania border at Cabo Delgado where the Mozambican struggle had its roots.

Cabo Delgado's Mueda Plateau has immense historic importance to the country and to Zimbabwe too.

On June 16, 1960 600 Mozambicans were massacred. The crime? They had dared to ask for independence from the Portuguese administration.

In 1963 the Zimbabwean leadership went to Dar es Salaam to try and set up a government-in-exile. It met Mr Eduardo Mondlane, then Frelimo president, who was secretly organising Mozambicans for their struggle. Later he taught Zimbabweans how to wage a national war of liberation.

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS JAILING SMUGGLERS

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] The Government is considering mandatory jail sentences of up to five years as well as impounding hired buses that carry people engaged in racketeering which cost the country millions of dollars in lost foreign exchange, the Minister of Finance, Senator Enos Nkala, said in Bulawayo yesterday.

Commenting on charges of discrimination by hundreds of black women held for searching at the Beitbridge customs, Senator Nkala said the fact that so many women continued to cross the border to South Africa from where they brought luxury goods for sale at inflated prices in Zimbabwe indicated "they did not heed my warning".

"I warned last year against racketeering. They did not pay heed. Then I had to come in to impose a severe clampdown but still more have been going across the border.

"I will be bringing legislation in which anyone involved in foreign currency racketeering will go to jail for five years without the option of a fine. They can rot in those jails," he said.

"We are also examining ways of dealing with those bus operators who hire out their buses for this purpose. We can impound the buses for a long time," Senator Nkala said.

The minister dismissed charges of discrimination and said whites had been the most affected by his earlier ban on car and furniture exports.

He said cars and furniture which had a high percentage of imported components purchased with foreign exchange were being sold outside Zimbabwe. "That was a way of depriving this country of its foreign exchange. I had to stop it. In this racket only whites were involved," he said.

The minister said the black women were abusing the purpose of the holiday allowance.

"For this reason they do not have my sympathy. They can stay at the border for the whole month," he said.

Senator Nkala said holiday allowances were meant for those people who had worked hard in Zimbabwe and felt they needed a rest.

"These black women instead take this foreign currency pretending they are going on holiday--only to buy goods.

"They dodge paying custom duties, import taxes and other fees which are a source of revenue for the Government. They bring in luxury goods in form of jeans, denims, blankets, umbrellas which are not vital for our people," he said.

The minister dismissed the excuse by the women that selling crotchet ware in South Africa was their only way of making a living.

"If they have no jobs let them come to us and we will give them jobs on the land."

CSO: 4700/481

GOVERNMENT AID TO SMALL-SCALE FARMERS PRAISED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 5

[Text]

THE rescue operation mounted by the Government in aid of small-scale and communal farmers who had been plagued by transport problems in the last season has been praised by the Agricultural Marketing Authority.

"By all accounts the scheme proved a success," says the authority's economic section in a 1981/82 Cotton Situation and Outlook Report.

At the height of harvesting last season's record produce, the report notes that cotton posed "tremendous problems" in its transport to collection depots.

Following a directive from the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, CMED and army trucks were used from September in two operations code-named Graineott and Croptran to assist in the transportation of crops from small-scale and communal farming areas.

The report notes the declining trend in cotton plantings which began four years ago in the large-scale sector and "became even more mark-

ed this year".

For instance in 1978 86 000 ha were put to cotton and in 1980 the area had declined to 74 900 ha. Last season's estimates were 62 800 ha to cotton — a decline of 12 100 ha (or 16 percent) from the previous year.

Agritex has noted that cotton hecatares in the current 1981/82 season could drop further.

However, the situation report says the effects of decreased plantings have been offset by higher yields, which rose by nearly 30 percent from 1.50 tonnes to 1.94 tonnes per hectare between 1978 and 1980.

As a result, large-scale cotton production increased by 13 percent from 129 000 tonnes in 1978 to 145 500 tonnes in 1980.

"The decline in the relative profitability of cotton vis-a-vis maize would appear to have led to this disquieting drop in cotton production," says the report. "There was a marked shift to maize production by growers this year."

Meanwhile, the return to peace — coupled with help from the Government and relief agencies — led to "a massive expansion" in cotton production by communal and small-scale farmers.

It has been estimated that 71 600 ha were planted to cotton in these sectors in 1981 and this was 47 300 ha (or 195 percent) higher than the 1980 level.

"It is estimated that purchases in the current 1981/82 marketing year will reach an all-time record of 204 000 tonnes.

CSO: 4700/481

STOCK EXCHANGE CHIEF CONFIDENT OF FUTURE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 11

[Text]

BUSINESSMEN should look to the new year with confidence, says Mr Bill Burdett-Coutts, chairman of the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange in his year-end message, particularly as world economies are expected to pick up in the second half of 1982.

"Nineteen-eighty-one has been a year which most investors will wish to forget due to the very sharp fall experienced in Stock Market prices, particularly in the latter part of the year," he says in his report.

"Reasons for the fall include the general malaise in world economies which has had a serious effect on metal prices, and rising interest rates at home and abroad.

"Locally, serious transport bottle necks and rising levels of taxation have also been adverse factors.

"I must say that a degree of political uncertainty caused by conflicting ministerial statements has sapped confidence within Zimbabwe and also been an inhibiting factor in regard to fresh foreign and even local investment.

"However, I do believe

that there is a tendency here to exaggerate the negative factors and to ignore the very real progress which has been made in many areas.

"I therefore believe that we should move forward into 1982 in confidence that the economy will continue to grow through the year, particularly as the world is expected to begin to move out of recession around the second half of the New Year. I believe that all businessmen will do their utmost to achieve this end.

"To Government I would ask for an end to 'Hot Air' from all the ministers and a greater recognition of the part that private enterprise and foreign investment can play in building a great nation in Zimbabwe.

"I am convinced that in that way the main objective of the Government to achieve a better standard of living and more employment for the people of this country will be achieved much more quickly than down the path of doctrinaire socialism which we have heard so much about recently," Mr Burdett-Coutts said.

CSO: 4700/481

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY TARIFFS EXPECTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 11

[Article by Angus Macmillan]

[Text]

A SUBSTANTIAL increase in electricity tariffs can be expected in the 1982/3 financial year, says the Electricity Supply Commission in its annual report for the year ended June 30, 1981.

This will coincide with the scheduled implementation of the first stage of the Wankie thermal power plant and its supply of electricity to the national grid.

Sales of 4 896.3 million kwh were up by 3.81 percent on the previous year, with consumption higher in all categories except agriculture.

The commission, which supplies 70 percent of all electrical energy in Zimbabwe, increased its revenue from sales by 19 percent to \$70 million.

Industry, accounting for 54.9 percent of total sales,

and mining with 26 percent, continued to be the major consumers of power supplied by the commission.

The average price paid for electricity by its consumers in 1980/81 was 1,431 cents per kwh, compared with 1,247 cents in 1979/80.

This increase of 14 percent is expected to be substantially exceeded in next year's price rise, which may come in July.

"The cost of Stage 1 of the Wankie project, at present-day world prices for boilers and machinery, will represent imported inflation to a degree which this country has

hitherto not experienced," said the report.

But costs of both plant and coal would determine the magnitude of next year's tariff increases for the consumer.

Construction of Stage 1 was proceeding satisfactorily and the first of four 120 mw units should be ready for commercial operation by December 1982, it added.

Although expenditure rose by 20.9 percent to \$67.4 million, there was an overall surplus of \$5.04 million, which was transferred to the general reserve fund for development of supply systems throughout the country.

CSO: 4700/481

STATIONS COMPLAIN OF PETROL SHORTAGE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 1

[Text]

SALISBURY petrol stations say they don't have enough petrol for the Christmas holiday period despite additional fuel promised by the Government.

In interviews yesterday at more than 12 petrol stations allegations that petrol was reserved for special customers were denied and spokesmen said demand exceeded supply.

A spokesman at a Union Avenue petrol station which opens in the mornings only from 7 to 9, said the station had been compelled to ration petrol at \$10 a customer to last for five days since Tuesday.

"We used to sell 30 000 litres a month but these days we are selling 5 000 a week. If we sell more than we are rationing, the petrol will be finished."

Mr Richard Ncube of a petrol station at the corner of Park Street and Baker Avenue said: "We do not expect to reach 12 noon tomorrow if we continue selling at this rate because I do not ration. I sell all that I have and close."

TROUBLE

"From Monday to Wednesday, we have sold 30 000 litres and today we have got 18 000, which I obviously don't think will reach tomorrow afternoon. The trouble with our

customers is that they tell lies. They pretend to have long journeys when they want to keep the petrol at their homes," said Mr Ncube.

A petrol dealer at the corner of Second Street and Union Avenue said she was only left with 4 000 litres for today.

The AA says in a report released at 9 am yesterday that fuel will be available through the holidays — December 25 to 27 and January 1 to 3 — in Fort Victoria, Gwelo, Inyanga, Victoria Falls, Wankie, Gatooma, Bindura, Beitbridge, Karoi, Plumtree, Kariba, Chirundu and Gwanda.

Many garages will be open except for the period December 27 to January 3. These include garages in Shabani, Que Que, Umtali, Chipinga and Rusape.

But some towns' garages will remain closed throughout the holidays because of the fuel shortage. These include Bulawayo and Sincla.

Full copies of the reports are available from AA offices.

"The station closes at 3.30 pm every day to give a break to the petrol attendants and also to conserve a little to sell on the next day. This is our last issue of petrol. We won't be getting any until next year," she said.

"People are just using too much petrol. We have introduced a ration of \$15 per car and the extra fuel of about 5 000 litres we received on Tuesday will be finished by the end of the week."

DISAPPOINTED

Mr C. Moyo of a Sincla Street petrol station was disappointed because he had not received the extra fuel of 3 500 litres he had expected from his supplier.

A spokesman for a Julius Nyerere Way petrol station, which did not open on some days to conserve supplies, said he received 15 percent additional fuel last week on Wednesday at 11 am and by Thursday afternoon the next day it was sold out.

Several other petrol stations reported a ration of \$15 per customer.

• The Automobile Association of Zimbabwe, in conjunction with the Motor Trade Association, has begun giving a daily report on the fuel situation in various parts of the country. The service will be provided until January 4.

SETTLEMENT SCHEMES HAVE UK BACKING

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 3

[Text]

BRITAIN has fulfilled a quarter of its commitments to the resettlement programme in Zimbabwe, the acting British High Commissioner, Mr Nicholas Elam, said yesterday.

This had been achieved through 17 settlement schemes involving 6 200 families now placed on 247 000 hectares at a cost of \$14.4 million. Britain has paid half the costs.

The Deputy Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Mr Moven Mahachi, and Mr Elam, approved the second stage of the Zengeza-Wedza scheme and the Simba Youth Co-operative on Paridon Farm yesterday.

This brought the total number of joint resettlement schemes to 17, including four co-operatives.

Britain is spending \$132 077 for the resettlement of 148 families on 4 216 hectares in the second stage of the Zengeza-Wedza scheme. The total cost of the project is \$264 158.

It is also paying half the cost of \$136 077 for the resettlement of 55 co-operative members on 1 955 hectares at the Simba Youth Project on Paridon Farm.

Mr Elam said that Britain would sponsor half the total costs involved in resettling people on between 50 to 70 schemes.

He said the total cost was expected to rise to about \$80 million and that the British government was considering adding \$13.5 million (£10 million) to its resettlement scheme commitments.

The approval of two more schemes yesterday set the momentum which would be even greater next year, said Mr Elam.

Mr Mahachi said the 17 resettlement projects were just a "drop in the ocean" because the resettlement programme was at the centre of Zimbabwe's development.

He said the Government would continue in its efforts to get "as much land as we can get".

CSO: 4700/481

NEW MOVE TO SOLVE SABI CHIEFTAIN ROW REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 4

[Text]

ANOTHER meeting will be held next month in the Sabi North communal farming area to sort out the disputed succession to the Mutekedza chieftainship, vacant since 1976.

The new meeting is to be called on the instructions of the Minister of Local Government and Housing, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, said the leader of a delegation to the minister this week, Mr Augustine Musikavanhu Chisvo.

The delegation included Mr P. M. Masoka, son of the last chief and a leader of the Matemai house, and Mr Taderera Nungoni, son of the chief who died in 1950.

Mr Chisvo, who is the head of the Musikavanhu family of the Chisvo house, said the Chisvo and Matemai houses agreed that it was the turn of the Chisvo house to hold the chieftainship.

The two houses alter-

nated in the chieftainship, he said. A third house, the Nyoka, used to be eligible for the honour, but in the 1920s the old community had split and the Nyoka house assumed the chieftainship of the branch.

But now Mr Mutswiri Nyoka, brother of Chief Nyoka, was trying to claim the Mutekedza chieftainship. A meeting in early November decided in favour of Mr Nyoka, but only, said Mr Chisvo, because of orders from a Government official.

Mr Chisvo said Dr Zvobgo had called in Dr Frederick Shava, the ZANU (PF) Midlands provincial chairman, during the talks with the delegation, and the two ministers went through the evidence.

"As a result, Dr Zvobgo said he would order his officials to call another meeting within 21 days, or as soon as possible thereafter."

CSO: 4700/481

BRIEFS

SUGAR PRODUCTION--Hippo Valley was Africa's biggest single producer of sugar this season, with 2 022 898 tonnes of cane processed into 251 331 tonnes of sugar at its Chiredzi mill by last Thursday. The record tonnage was 19 percent up on last season and was achieved at the highest recovery (87,98 percent) and efficiency (88,64 percent) rates on the continent this year, said general manager, Mr Rowland Dahl. Hippo's managing director, Mr Brian Bullett, attributed the success to the hard work and co-operation of management and workers on the estate. The sugar stockpile, which has built up due to transport difficulties, was likely to be significantly reduced before the beginning of the 1982 season in April/May. This was the result of steadily improving circumstances at the National Railways of Zimbabwe, he said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 1]

ARMY CLOSES ROADS--Three main roads in the Inyanga area have been closed to the public to demarcate an area for army training and the establishment of a military cantonment in the district, a Government spokesman said yesterday. Members of the public and tourists are advised to avoid using the road from the Van Niekerk Ruins to Aberdeen and Inyanga, also the road to Ngarawe, which begins about 800 metres on the Rusape side of Inyanga Village, and the Falls road through Brondesbury Park to Derera, Ensworth and on to the Van Niekerk Ruins. Warning notices would be signposted at the appropriate points, the spokesman said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 3]

WANKIE AIR LINK--A twice-weekly air service from Salisbury to Wankie town will be inaugurated on Tuesday, January 5. Mr Rob Rickards of Executive Air, said yesterday that his company had been given the permits for a scheduled air service, complementing the twice-weekly Bulawayo-Wankie service already in operation. Until now people wanting to fly to Wankie town have either had to charter a plane, or fly by Air Zimbabwe to Wankie National Park or Victoria Falls and then drive for at least 50 minutes to the town. The new service would operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays, leaving Salisbury at 6.30 am, arriving in Wankie town about 8 am and returning in the late afternoon. Depending on the number of passengers, the aircraft would be a Cessna 402 or 421 pressurised, or a Beechcraft Baron. If necessary two planes would be used. Mr Rickards said his firm had been receiving several requests for charter flights but many companies wanted to send just one or two people to Wankie and it was uneconomic to charter a plane for so small a group. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 6]

DOCTORS FROM EGYPT--The acting Minister of Health, Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, and the Ambassador of Egypt, Dr Taha El-Farnawany, signed an agreement this week under which Egyptian doctors are to work in Zimbabwe hospitals. An embassy statement said yesterday the agreement between the Arab Fund and Zimbabwe, which was signed in Salisbury on Tuesday, was a positive step towards consolidating Arab-African co-operation in technical fields. The doctors were chosen according to the needs of Zimbabwe when Ministry of Health officials visited Egypt recently, the statement said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 3]

NORMAND TO HEAD MTD--Mr Lindsay Prentice Normand has succeeded Commander H. E. Grenfell as chairman of the MTD group in Zimbabwe. No stranger to directorships, he also chairs the boards of Founders Building Society, Lion Match and the Export Credit Insurance Corporation. He also sits on the boards of SPC, C. T. Bowring and the National Gallery. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 11]

BUSINESS PROBLEMS--There is a limit to the extent firms can absorb increased input costs without some sort of relief, says ACCOZ chief executive, Mr Keith Nicholson. Higher rates, the freeze on prices and the recent increases in minimum wages are but the latest contributions to a package that will inevitably affect the viability of some businesses. "A lot of business people will be revising their 1982 budgets after the introduction of these recent restraining measures," he said. He hoped that the Government would lift the price freeze "in the very near future" and that a suitable pricing in policy would be worked out. Commenting on the results of the university's business opinion survey, he said that they were similar to feedback ACCOZ had been receiving from its members. But he felt the drop in respondents worried about the shortage of skills was because other problems were greater and not because skills were more plentiful. Another effect of the price freeze would be a reduction in money accruing to the State in the form of tax. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 11]

SPC FLEET--SPC Limited recently took delivery of a fleet of 9 Aveling Barford dump trucks costing \$1,5 million. Scheduled for import through Beira, the 35-tonners came up from Durban on low-loaders instead, because of the Pungwe River dislocation in October. The new trucks will improve SPC's haulage set-up which has been relying on vehicles of up to 30 years old for some time. In 1982, the company expects to move 2,2 million tonnes of raw material at its Arcturus Road works. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 11]

SECOND RF MP RESIGNS--Bulawayo--A second Republican Front Member of Parliament has resigned. He is Mr Alec Moseley (63), a Nyamandhlovu farmer and member for Western constituency. He has written to the chairman of the RF, Mr Geoff Kluckow, informing him of his intention to resign on December 31. He has sold his farm, Recovery, in Nyamandhlovu and is at present on holiday in Johannesburg, visiting relatives. Mr Kluckow said the letter from Mr Moseley gave no reason for his resignation. "But, basically, I believe it is because of the largeness of his constituency and the smallness of his parliamentary salary. That is the thinking of most of them," he said. Mr Kluckow said the letter to him was a courtesy gesture to inform him of a member's intentions. The official procedure was to inform the Speaker of the House, who in turn would inform the President. "Once President Banana has declared a vacancy we will start procedures for a by-election." The by-election would

probably be on the same day as that to be held in Mr Rowan Cronje's constituency. Mr Cronje resigned from Parliament on December 16, saying he had been offered a good job outside the country. His constituency is Central Midlands. There would be no problem about finding candidates. "We have a panel of candidates," Mr Kluckow said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 81 p 3]

ENERGY PROBLEMS SURVEY LAUNCHED--The Environment Liaison Centre in Nairobi is undertaking a survey of non-governmental organisations in Africa to develop fuelwood and other sources of renewable energy, a member of the executive committee, Mr Simon Muchiru, said in Salisbury yesterday. "This programme will broadly aim at creating an African energy network, and increasing and improving tree planting as a way of solving fuelwood problems," said Mr Muchiru. "We will also try to expand the non-governmental organisations' communications network on the continent," he added. The programme would also discuss the involvement of these organisations in the United Nations Environment Programme's "10 Years After Stockhold" celebrations next year. Mr Muchiru yesterday met officials from the Department of National Parks and Wild Life and other related organisations at the Queen Victoria Museum in Salisbury. He showed a film on wildlife conservation and slides on the organisation of wildlife clubs in Kenya. Participants at yesterday's meeting agreed that it was essential to form wildlife clubs in Zimbabwe in order to teach youth about wildlife conservation. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 5]

COAL PRICE HIKE--The 25 percent average increase on coke and coal prices announced by Wankie Colliery yesterday will not have an immediate effect on tobacco producers as they took deliveries early, the president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, Mr Bert Palmer, said yesterday. Though the increase was considerable, the impact on growers had been reduced as a result of early deliveries, he said. The new price rises formulated in consultation with the Government are: dry coal--27,11 percent; washed coal--25,32 percent; coke--17,20 percent. Mr Palmer said it had been estimated that about two thirds of tobacco producers' coal requirements had been delivered. Tobacco production consumes about 10 percent of Wankie's annual output in curing and will use in the region of 200 000 tonnes this season. The introduction of the new rates comes too soon after the minimum wage hike which had considerable effect on the cost of production," said Mr Palmer. With the crop not being supported by preplanting prices and being a massive user of both coal and labour, the grower is faced with ever spiralling costs and a larger risk element than ever in his production. "We are concerned with the ever diminishing viability of tobacco production. Alternative crops could become far more attractive should the current price escalation trend continue." [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Dec 81 p 5]

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